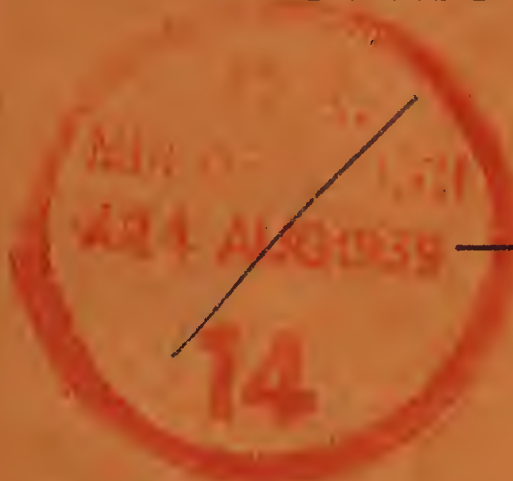


ELLESMERE PORT URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1938

BY


M. E. RUSSELL, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

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INTRODUCTION

To the Chairman and Members of the Ellesmere Port Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District for the year 1938.

From a Public Health point of view, this has been an eventful year. During the first three months there were severe epidemics of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever, which taxed our Hospital accommodation and threw a heavy burden on my willing staff.

In July we had a small outbreak of Food Poisoning which is now-a-days a most unusual occurrence. By prompt action the origin was traced and the outbreak terminated.

September brought the Crisis, leaving the problems and difficulties of A.R.P. still with us.

In October there was an outbreak of Typhoid Fever. The source of infection was traced to a carrier.

Finally in October and November the Diphtheria Immunisation campaign was carried through with satisfactory results.

The Vital Statistics for the year are based upon a population of 26,030, as estimated by the Registrar General. This is an increase of 420 on the previous year.

The General Death Rate shows a slight increase from 9.91 to 11.26 per 1,000 population.

The Birth Rate shows a slight decrease from 18.86 to 18.28 per 1,000 population.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 48.3 per 1,000 live births. It was 66.2 in the previous year.

During the year the members of the Public Health Department have again been encouraged in their work by the interest and enthusiasm shown by the Council and its Health and M. and C. W. Committees.

Finally I must express once more my gratitude to my willing Staff for their hard work during a difficult period.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

MARY E. RUSSELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

13th June, 1939.

ELLESMERE PORT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR, 1938

Ellesmere Port and Whitby was constituted an Urban District in the year 1902. The townships of Overpool and Netherpool, also Great Stanney were added in the year 1910.

On the 1st April 1933, the accession of Great Sutton and Ince, most of Childer Thornton and Little Sutton and parts of Hooton, Eastham, Thornton-le-Moors and Willaston formed the present Urban District, which is now named Ellesmere Port.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Medical Officer of Health : M. E. RUSSELL, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Orthopaedic Surgeon : T. HARTLEY MARTIN, M.B., B.Ch.

Aural Surgeon : R. MARTIN, M.B., B.Ch.

Gynaecologist : MORRIS DATNOW, M.D., F.R.C.S. (*Edin.*).

Chief Sanitary Inspector : L. JEPSON, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector : E. TUFT, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk in the Department : J. P. GODDARD.

Senior Health Visitor : MISS M. B. REDFERN, C.M.B., C.R.S.I.

Assistant Health Visitors : MISS L. M. RENDELL, S.R.N.,
C.M.B.H.V. AND MISS M. AINSCOUGH, S.R.N., C.M.B.H.V.

All the officers employed are fully qualified for the duties they perform and are holders of the recognised qualifications for the offices they hold. Each Sanitary Inspector holds the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and the special certificate for proficiency in the Inspection of meat. The Health Visitors have the qualifying certificate required by the Ministry, the certificate of the Central Midwives' Board, and two are State Registered Nurses.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (acres)	9,144
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population (1938)	26,030
Number of inhabited houses (1938)	6,850
Number of unoccupied houses (1938)	115
Total number of houses in the Area (1938)	6,965
Rateable Value	£172,168
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£620

The Natural Increase in Population (that is excess of births over deaths) is shown in the following table :

Year.	Population	Natural Increase per 1,000 Pop.	Year.	Population	Natural Increase per 1,000 Pop.
1922 ...	13,540	14.2	1930 ...	18,300	14.1
1923 ...	13,900	19.6	1931 ...	19,080	15.0
1924 ...	14,370	17.6	1932 ...	19,320	14.2
1925 ...	15,000	15.2	1933 ...	23,190	19.5
1926 ...	16,310	16.2	1934 ...	24,730	11.6
1927 ...	17,240	15.2	1935 ...	24,840	9.7
1928 ...	17,360	16.4	1936 ...	25,100	10.9
1929 ...	17,580	14.5	1937 ...	25,610	8.9
			1938 ...	26,030	7.03

Natural Increase of Population (that is excess of births over deaths) 1922-37 (England and Wales).

Year	Per 1,000 population	Year	Per 1,000 population
1922	7.6	1930	4.9
1923	8.1	1931	3.5
1924	6.6	1932	3.3
1925	6.1	1933	2.1
1926	6.2	1934	3.0
1927	4.3	1935	2.9
1928	5.0	1936	2.7
1929	2.9	1937	2.7

Ellesmere Port has a favourable situation as an industrial centre. It is built on the Manchester Ship Canal and has excellent rail and road communications.

The chief industries carried on in the area are :—

A newsprint paper works	employing	890	persons
Two sheet Iron works	employing	2,400	persons
Two Flour Mills	employing	188	persons
A Ship-repairing Works	employing	70	persons
A Dye-Works	employing	93	persons
Metal Containers	employing	495	persons
Several Petrol Installations	employing	1,306	persons
Brickworks	employing	29	persons

During the year there has been an improvement in the number employed in these industries. The unemployed percentage of the insured population fell from 5.62 in January to 4.84 in December.

In December the number of unemployed persons was 1,238.

This is composed of :—	1,015	men
	32	boys
	106	women
	85	girls

The Manager of the Employment Exchange has kindly furnished me with these particulars.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1938.

LIVE BIRTHS

							Males		Females		Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	260	...	202	...	462
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	7	...	14
							<hr/> 267	...	<hr/> 209	...	<hr/> 476

Birth Rate 18.28 per 1,000 population.

Live Births Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population (1938), in 143 smaller towns (population 25,000—50,000 (Census 1931) 15.4.

STILL BIRTHS

							Males		Females		Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	8	...	23
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	...	0	...	0
							<hr/> 15	...	<hr/> 8	...	<hr/> 23

Still Birth Rate 46.09 per 1,000 total live and still births or .88 per 1,000 of the population.

The average number of births per annum in the years 1923-37 was 443.

Table of number of Births and Birth Rates, 1923-37 :

year		Number	Birth Rate	year		Number	Birth Rate
1923	...	409	24.9	1930	...	435	23.8
1924	...	389	27.0	1931	...	458	24.0
1925	...	390	26.0	1932	...	442	22.9
1926	...	421	25.8	1933	...	467	20.1
1927	...	402	23.3	1934	...	518	20.9
1928	...	438	24.9	1935	...	470	18.9
1929	...	426	24.5	1936	...	503	20.04
				1937	...	483	18.86

Birth Rate England and Wales, 1937-14.9.

Birth Rate Administrative County of Chester 14.2

DEATHS

Total 293 Males 167 Females 126

Death Rate, 11.26 per 1,000 population.

The corrected Death Rate was 14.19.

Table of Number of Deaths and Death Rates, 1923-37.

year	Number	Death Rate	year	Number	Death Rate
1923	... 137	9.8	1930	... 178	9.7
1924	... 136	9.5	1931	... 169	8.9
1925	... 163	10.8	1932	... 171	8.9
1926	... 156	9.5	1933	... 222	9.6
1927	... 141	8.1	1934	... 231	9.3
1928	... 149	8.5	1935	... 229	9.2
1929	... 174	10.0	1936	... 227	9.0
			1937	... 254	9.91

The average number of deaths per annum in the years 1923-37 was 182.

Percentage of Deaths occurring in Public Institutions 52.5%

Ratio of local adjusted death rate to National rate 1.01 (1937) England and Wales.

Ratio of local adjusted death rate to National rate 0.99 (1937) Administrative County of Cheshire.

Death Rate — England and Wales — 11.6 per 1,000 population

Death Rate — 148 Smaller Towns — 11.0 per 1,000 population

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
Puerperal Sepsis	... 1	... 2.00	... 2.10
Other Puerperal Causes	... 0	... 0.00	... 0.00
Total	... 1	... 2.00	... 2.10

The figures for England and Wales :

	Death Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) Births	Death Rate per 1,000 live Births
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	0.89
Other Puerperal Causes	2.11	2.19
Total	2.97	3.08

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

	Number	Rate
All Infants per 1,000 live Births	23	48.3
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	21	45.4
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	2	142.00

The Figures for England and Wales :

All England and Wales	53.0
148 smaller Towns (Estimated resident populations 25,000- 50,000 Census 1931)	51.0
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	57.0
London	57.0

Table of Infant Mortality, 1922-37.

Year	Rate per 1,000 Births	Year	Rate per 1,000 Births
1922	116.8	1930	44.0
1923	66.0	1931	68.0
1924	64.2	1932	68.0
1925	128.0	1933	75.0
1926	83.1	1934	48.26
1927	92.0	1935	44.6
1928	64.0	1936	51.7
1929	66.0	1937	66.2

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	2
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	4
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	35

CAUSES OF DEATH

All Causes	Males	Females	Total
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0	0
2. Measles	0	0	0
3. Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
4. Whooping Cough	1	1	2
5. Diphtheria	5	9	14
6. Influenza	0	0	0
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	0	1	1
8. Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	0	1
9. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	13	4	17
10. Other Tuberculous Disease	2	1	3
11. Syphilis	0	0	0
12. G.P I. Tabes	1	1	2
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	17	18	35
14. Diabetes	0	1	1
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage	14	10	24
16. Heart Disease	48	30	78
17. Aneurism	1	0	1
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	5	5	10
19. Bronchitis	1	4	5
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	11	6	17
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	6	0	6
22. Peptic Ulcer	2	0	2
23. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2	2	4
24. Appendicitis	1	2	3
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	0	0	0
26. Other Diseases of Liver	0	1	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	3	2	5
28. Acute and chronic Nephritis	6	3	9
29. Puerperal Sepsis	0	1	1
30. Other Puerperal Causes	0	0	0
31. Congenital Debility, Prematurity, Malformations	9	4	13
32. Senility	1	2	3
33. Suicide	2	3	5
34. Other Violence	8	5	13
35. Other Defined Diseases	7	10	17
36. Causes Ill-defined or not known	0	0	0
	167	126	293

Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)

Smallpox	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Polioencephalitis	0	0	0

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

The personnel comprising the Administrative Staff, together with their qualifications, is indicated at the beginning of this Report.

The following services are available :

1. Laboratory Facilities.

Chemical analysis and Bacteriological examination of Water, Bacteriological examination of Milk samples being carried out at the expense of the Urban District. The Clinical Research Association and the Chester and Liverpool Laboratories are used for the investigation of Disease at the public expense.

The Food and Drugs Acts are administered by the County Council, and their officers submit samples for examination by the County Analyst.

The number of Throat Swabs examined for B. Diphtheria was 489. Of these 89 were returned Positive and 400 Negative.

The number of Blood specimens examined for B. Typhosus was 10. Of these one was returned Positive and 9 were Negative.

The number of Sputa examined for B. Tuberculosis in the County Laboratory was 56. Of these 9 were Positive and 47 were Negative.

2. Ambulance Facilities.

(a) For Infectious cases, the Wirral Joint Hospital Board provides motor Ambulances for the removal of patients; and for the removal, for steam disinfection, of bedding.

(b) For Non-Infectious and accident cases, the Urban District provides a motor Ambulance for use in connection with the District Hospital, Whitby. The Clatterbridge (*County*) General Hospital has two motor Ambulances.

The Ambulance Services are very satisfactory.

3. Nursing in the Home.

(a) *General.* There is a District Nursing Organisation which provides a trained Nurse, whose services are partially retained by the Council. Subscriptions from charitable persons and small charges for services rendered support the Organisation.

(b) *For Infectious Diseases.* There are no arrangements made for nursing Infectious cases, with the exception of Pneumonia.

4. Clinics and Treatment Centres.

These are held at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, York Road, Ellesmere Port. A second Child Welfare Centre has been opened at Little Sutton during the year, and full advantage has been taken of it by the residents in that area. The work of the Centres is purely of an advisory nature and no treatment is undertaken.

Orthopædic, Aural and Ante-natal Clinics are organised under the supervision of Specialists.

A School Clinic, with Dental and Ophthalmic Services, is provided by the County Council, and is also held at the Welfare Centre.

5. Hospitals

The Clatterbridge (*County*) General Hospital was appropriated for Public Health purposes on the 1st April, 1935, being formerly known as the Clatterbridge (*Wirral*) Infirmary.

Maternity: The County Council provides a well equipped Maternity Hospital, separate from other buildings, at Clatterbridge, and retains the services of a Consultant for Gynæcological and Maternity work. There are 19 beds and 19 cots.

Tuberculosis: The County Council is a partner in the Joint Sanatorium at Market Drayton. It has also an Institution at Wrenbury and pays for beds in the Sanatoria of other authorities, and in Leasowe and Heswall Open Air Hospitals for Children.

Children: The Urban District Council retains a bed in the West Kirby Convalescent Home, for Children from the Infant Welfare Centre. The Council subscribes to the funds of the Ellesmere Port and District Hospital, and retains the use of beds for sick children from the Welfare Centre.

Fevers: The Wirral Joint Hospital Board serves the District for Infectious Disease Cases, the District of such Board comprising the Wirral area of the administrative County of Cheshire, including the Chester Rural District. The main Infectious Disease Hospital of the Board is situated at Clatterbridge and has the following accommodation:

- 50 beds for Scarlet Fever.
- 12 beds for Enteric Fever.
- 12 beds for Diphtheria.
- 2 beds for observation.

Provision has been made to receive Encephalitis patients, and under certain conditions beds may be available for Measles and Whooping Cough.

Ellesmere Port and District Hospital: This Hospital contains 41 beds and 8 cots. It is managed by a voluntary Board. The Staff consists of the local Medical Men, Matron, 5 trained nurses, 3 probationers, and 1 masseuse.

The Visiting Staff consists of one Physician, two Surgeons, one Gynæcologist, one Ophthalmic Surgeon, one Aurist and a Dentist.

6. Midwives.

There are sixteen Midwives practising in the District, five of whom are employed by the County Council.

7. Legislation in Force.

A list of local and general Adoptive Acts and Bye-laws is given in the following list.

LIST OF LOCAL OR ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYELAWS, ORDERS OR REGULATIONS IN FORCE (so far as un repealed) IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

Page Sixteen,

Ellesmere Port and Whiteby Urban District Council Act, 1914	1914
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890	Adopted
Private Street works Act, 1892	1902
Public Health Acts Amended Act, 1890 (Parts 2, 3, 4, 5)	1902
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (Parts 2, 4, and 6)	1909
Public Libraries Act, 1892	1907
Order declaring Certain Trades to be Offensive Trades within the District	1911
Public Health Act, 1925 (Part 2 except Section 20)	1937

Subject matter.	Authority by whom made	Areas in which in force.	Date	Date of Confirmation
Libraries	Ellesmere Port Urban District Council	Whole urban area	30/11/1936	13/1/1937
Pleasure Grounds	ditto	ditto	25/1/1937	31/5/1937
Recreation Grounds	ditto	ditto	25/1/1937	31/5/1937
New Streets and Buildings ...	Ellesmere Port and Whitby Urban District Council	Parishes of Ellesmere Port and Great Stanney	26/10/1925	12/1/1926
Tents, Vans and Similar Structures	Wirral Rural District Council	Parishes of Childer Thornton, Hooton, Great Sutton and Little Sutton	19/2/1923	5/4/1923
† Omnibuses	ditto	ditto	19/11/1925	15/1/1925
Buildings	ditto	ditto	17/11/1924	12/1/1925
Offensive Trades	ditto	ditto	17/11/1924	8/1/1925
Cleansing of earth closets and privies, ashpits and manholes.	Chester Rural District Council	Parish of Ince	28/2/1923	22/4/1924

†These were in effect repealed by Section 122 and the 5th Schedule to the Road Traffic Act, 1930, which repeals the Towns Police Clauses Act, 1889, so far as it related to public service vehicles.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER: The mains of the West Cheshire Water Board supply practically the entire area (with the exception of Ince) and from them there is a plentiful piped supply of excellent water.

In Whitby there is a water tower with a storage capacity of 200,000 gallons. The supply is laid into the houses from the West Cheshire Mains, with the exception of a group of sixteen cottages in Stanney Lane, which are supplied by three stand-pipes, and a pair of cottages at Netherpool by one stand-pipe.

At Ince, water is supplied by the Council under the Public Health Act, 1936, through stand-pipes, by means of a bulk supply obtained from the Runcorn Rural District Council.

Fourteen samples of water were obtained during the year, seven for bacteriological examination, and seven for chemical analysis, shewing the following results.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Water Supply.	Average number of organisms producing visible colonies on gelatine plates incubated at 20.22 deg. C. for 3 days.	Average number of organisms producing visible colonies on agar plates incubated at 37 deg. C. for 2 days.	B. Coli.	Strepto Cocci.	B Enteriditis Sporogenes
11th January, 1938.					
A deep well at the Shell Mex Installation	Less than 10.	Less than 10.	Absent in 100 ccs.	—	—
11th January, 1938					
From Runcorn R.D.C mains at Ince	Less than 10.	Less than 10.	— do —	—	—
27th April, 1938.					
From West Cheshire Board's mains at Ellesmere Port	Nil.	Nil.	— do —	Absent in 10 ccs.	Absent in 50 ccs.
27th April, 1938.					
From Runcorn R.D.C. mains at Ince	Nil.	Nil.	— do —	— do —	—
24th June, 1938					
From Runcorn R.D.C. mains at Ince	21 per cc.	1 per cc.	— do —	— do —	— do —
24th June, 1938.					
From West Cheshire Board's mains at Ellesmere Port	30 per cc.	3 per cc.	— do —	— do —	— do —
25th November, 1938.					
From West Cheshire Board's mains at Ellesmere Port	Nil.	3 per cc.	Present in 100 but absent in 90 ccs.	— do —	— do —

(The Bacteriologist's remarks in each of the above certificates were that "the water is very good.")

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER.

Date	Water Supply.	Observations of the Analyst
11/ 1 38	The Council's mains at Ince	This water is very pure and of medium hardness It is well suited for drinking and all domestic purposes.
27/ 4/38	— do —	This is a satisfactory water from a chemical standpoint.
24/ 6/38	— do —	This is a very satisfactory water.
11/ 1,38	West Cheshire Water Board's mains	The water organically is very pure. The combined chlorine content is somewhat high, but in its present state, the water is quite fit for drinking
27/ 4/38	— do —	This water does not shew any evidence of pollution of organic origin but the figure for the chlorides is extremely high and suggests that the water may have come through the chloride bearing strata.
24/ 6/38	— do —	This is a very satisfactory water.
25/11/38	— do —	A very good water.

DRAINAGE and SEWERAGE: There are two sewage disposal works in the District. The works at Little Stanney were newly erected during the year 1933, and designed for a population of 20,000; whilst the disposal works at Sunnyside Pontoon were reconstructed and designed for a population of 7,000. A small area is still drained into the Mersey under the Manchester Ship Canal without treatment. The Parish of Ince is rural in character and completely unsewered. The most recent dwellings erected, seven in number, are drained to approved septic tanks and filter beds, the effluent being discharged into the nearby watercourse.

The following new lengths of sewers were laid during the year :

Foul water sewers	1533 yards
Surface water sewers	247 yards
	<hr/>
Total	1780 yards
	<hr/>

RIVERS and STREAMS: The small river Gowy is within the Urban District and is bordered by fenny lands, and is tide-locked where it is siphoned below the Manchester Ship Canal to discharge into the River Mersey.

Industrial development is rapidly taking place, especially with regard to oil refineries and petrol storage on this land which is adjacent to the Ship Canal, forming easy facilities for loading and unloading such commodities.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION: The greater part of the district is provided with clean water closets; but on the outskirts of the town and in places where sewers are not yet available some pails, privies, cesspools and septic tanks are now in use.

SCAVENGING: Movable sanitary galvanised iron dust bins are in use in the whole of the district. The Pagefield system of refuse removal has been adopted and this is effectively carried out.

During the year under report tipping of refuse was taking place on land near the new sewage works at Little Stanney, but in order that complaint be avoided there needs to be more strict adherence to the approved rules of controlled tipping issued by the Ministry of Health, and I would again emphasise this extract from the Ministry of Health Report, 1934-35.

“ The number of Local Authorities who have adopted controlled tipping as a method of disposal continues to increase. In all cases which come before the Ministry, strict compliance with the precautions recommended by them for observance in connection with the tipping of refuse is made a condition of sanction, for it cannot be too strongly emphasised that careful attention must be given to matters of detail if success is to be achieved. It is important, for example, that the refuse should be deposited so that there are no cavities in the interior; the exclusion of air, and the effective sealing of the outer surfaces by means of earth or other incombustible material which will pack closely over the refuse, are essential features of controlled tipping.”

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA: The following table gives a classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered and the action and result of action taken in regard to these.

**ANNUAL TABULAR STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS, AND THE
RESULT OF SERVICE OF NOTICES, FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1938.**

(Supplied by the Chief Sanitary Inspector)

Inspection of Premises, etc.	Number	Number of Notices Served		Result of Service of Notices		
		Statutory	Informal	Complied with	Remaining In Hand	Prosecutions
Dwelling-houses (General)	165	23	142	162	3	
Revisits to inspect work in progress ...	1515	—	—	—	—	
Re-inspections	82	—	—	—	—	
Dwelling-houses (Housing Acts)	56	7	49	54	2	
Schools	15	—	10	8	2	
Caravans, &c.	14	—	—	—	—	
Back Yards and Sanitary Conveniences	130	1	129	130	—	
Drainage:						
Inspections of drains	4	—	—	—	—	
Number of tests to old drains	1	—	—	—	—	
Ditches and Watercourses	13	—	3	3	—	
Offensive Accumulations	1	—	1	1	—	
Offensive Trades	6	—	—	—	—	
Public Abattoirs	626	—	—	—	—	
Private Slaughter-houses	155	—	—	—	—	
Other Food Premises	458	—	1	1	—	
Bakehouses	7	—	—	—	—	
Shops (Shops Acts, 1912-36)	186	1	—	—	1	
Piggeries,	1	—	—	—	—	
Dairies and Cowsheds	57	—	—	—	—	
Milkshops	1	—	—	—	—	
Factories,	7	—	1	1	—	
Workshops	10	—	—	—	—	
Workplaces	1	—	1	1	—	
Smoke Observations	1	—	—	—	—	
Canal Boats	73	2	—	2	—	
Infectious Disease Enquiries	700	—	200	200	—	
Disinfections of Premises	732	—	—	—	—	
Visits re. Vermin Infestation	95	—	—	—	—	
Disinfestations carried out	131	—	—	—	—	
Samples of milk for bacteriological						
Examination	20	—	—	—	—	
Samples of water for examination ...	14	—	—	—	—	
Interviews with Owners, &c.	184	—	—	—	—	
Miscellaneous Visits	298	—	—	—	—	
TOTALS	5759	34	537	563	8	1

One prosecution for non-compliance with an Abatement Notice—a Magistrate's Order was made for the work to be carried out within fourteen days and the payment of costs.

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES AND DEFECTS DEALT WITH DURING
THE YEAR, 1938

Nature of Nuisances and Defects Recorded	Number
Houses or parts thereof requiring cleansing	194
Houses or parts thereof with broken plaster	98
Houses without an internal water supply	18
Houses overcrowded	2
W.C. drains choked	28
Drain ventilation pipes defective	20
W.C. pans filthy and broken	14
W.C. fittings and cisterns defective	142
Sink and bath waste pipes defective	39
Sinks defective	3
Roofs defective	94
Gutters, fall-pipes, &c. defective	116
Dust Bins dilapidated	229
Accumulations of refuse	5
Yard Pavings defective	66
Washing Boilers defective	37
Tiled floors broken and sunken	94
Wooden floors rotted and sunken	31
Windows defective	122
Watercourses choked	3
Factory—defect	1
Shops—No W.C., water supply or washing facilities	1
Workplaces—No W.C. or washing facilities	1
Canal Boats—defects	2
Fireplaces, ovens, etc., defective	100
Stairs, &c., defective	20
Pointing perished and brickwork defective	10
Front Paths defective	14
Miscellaneous nuisances and defects	288
TOTAL ...	1886

SHOPS ACTS, 1912 - 1936: During the twelve months under review, the administration of the whole of the Shops Acts was undertaken by this Council. The Chief and Additional Sanitary Inspectors whom you appointed to carry out the duties have done so in accordance with the expressed wishes of the Law and Parliamentary Committee; that, in the first instance, the observance of the requirements of the Acts and Regulations be secured as far as possible by persuasive and educational means.

The majority of the shops, and the stalls in the Open Market, had been inspected by the end of the year, and in each case, in addition to a full explanation of the requirements by the individual trader, a copy of the "Summary of the Principal Provisions of the Shops Acts" was handed to the shopkeeper. Some of the shops have been revisited on two or three occasions, and the following table shews that the traders have responded quite well.

Contraventions.	Number Recorded	Number Remedied	Remaining
Forms F, G, and H, re. employment of young persons not exhibited...	33	23	10
Assistant's weekly half holiday notice not exhibited	23	18	5
Notices re. Sale of exempted goods only on Weekly half-holiday and Sunday	55	46	9
No. W.C. accommodation and wash- ing facilities	2	1	1
Serving of customers after closing hour	5	Warned	
Weekly half-holiday not in conform- ity with the closing order in force...	2	Warned	

A report was presented to the Law and Parliamentary Committee at the meeting held in February, 1939, on the progress made, when an undertaking was given that the first inspections of the whole of the shops in the district would be completed by the end of March, 1939. The Committee would then review all the outstanding matters. The Administration of the Acts has since been placed in the hands of the Health Committee.

SMOKE ABATEMENT: During the year, one observation of smoke emission was taken and the record shewed a great improvement on the previous one taken of this particular chimney.

SWIMMING POOL : The Rivacre Valley Swimming Pool is owned by the Council and has a swimming area of 1,567 square yards. The water passes through a Continuous Bath Purification Plant, which embodies two horizontal air scoured pressure filters with a Circulating Pump capable of circulating the total contents of the Pool in a period of eight hours.

The following is a bacteriological report upon the water :

Bacteria per c.c. at 37 deg. C.	0
Bacteria per c.c. at 22 deg. C.	180
B.Coli.	Absent in 100 c.c.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS : The number of houses found to be infested was :

(a) Council Houses	21
(b) Other Houses	35
(c) Number Disinfested	56
(d) Total Visits	107

The methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed-bugs consist of (1) the removal of picture mouldings, architraves and skirting boards, and whilst these are being removed a blow-lamp is used ; (2) the walls, ceilings and floors are sprayed with a fluid insectide (Zaldecide).

The methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses. The Housing Manager inspects the premises of all prospective tenants of Council houses, and on his report that infestation of bed bugs is present the house is sprayed as above and furniture fumigated with a sulphur compound.

The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority.

SCHOOLS : There are seven Council schools and five denominational schools in the district, all of which have been inspected and minor repairs have been carried out. All the schools are supplied with piped water from the West Cheshire mains. The head teachers of the various schools are notified with regard to all cases of infectious disease in order to secure exclusion of contacts for the required period. During each vacation, and at other times as found necessary, the schools are thoroughly disinfected.

TABLE OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATION :

PARISH	Houses at end of 1937	Demolished during 1938	Completed during 1938	Actual at end of 1938
PARISH OF ELLESMERE PORT:				
Livingroom and one bedroom	33		6	39
Livingroom and two bedrooms			4	4
Livingroom, kitchen and two bedrooms	517			517
Livingroom, kitchen, scullery, two bedrooms...	16			16
Livingroom, kitchen and three bedrooms	1525		64	1589
Livingroom, kitchen, scullery, three bedrooms	114			114
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, two bedrooms.	143			143
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, three bedrooms	2268		32	2300
Livingroom and four bedrooms			10	10
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, four bedrooms	163	3	1	161
Larger houses	27		10	37
	4806	3	127	4930
PARISH OF GREAT STANNEY:				
Livingroom, kitchen, two bedrooms	1			1
Livingroom, kitchen, three bedrooms	30		89	119
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, three bedrooms	83		2	85
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, four bedrooms ..	4			4
Larger houses	2			2
	120		91	211
PARISH OF CHILDER THORNTON:				
Livingroom and one bedroom	7			7
Livingroom, kitchen, two bedrooms	38			38
Livingroom, kitchen, three bedrooms	26			26
Livingroom, kitchen, scullery, three bedrooms.	6			6
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, two bedrooms...	30			30
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, three bedrooms	118		12	130
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, four bedrooms...	36			36
Larger houses	37			37
	298		12	310

TABLE OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATION—Continued

PARISH	Houses at end of 1937	Demolished during 1938	Completed during 1938	Actual at end of 1938
PARISH OF HOOTON:				
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, three bedrooms...	2			2
Larger houses	2			2
	4			4
PARISH OF GREAT SUTTON:				
Livingroom and one bedroom	4			4
Livingroom, kitchen, two bedrooms	37		1	38
Livingroom, kitchen, three bedrooms	110		105	215
Livingroom, kitchen, scullery, two bedrooms...	3			3
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, two bedrooms...	15			15
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, three bedrooms	158	1	5	162
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, four bedrooms...	8			8
Larger houses	20			20
	355	1	111	465
PARISH OF LITTLE SUTTON:				
Livingroom and one bedroom	2	1		1
Livingroom, kitchen, two bedrooms	77	1		76
Livingroom, kitchen, three bedrooms	301		17	318
Livingroom, kitchen, four bedrooms	2			2
Livingroom, kitchen, scullery, two bedrooms...	3			3
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, two bedrooms...	16			16
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, three bedrooms	402		15	417
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, four bedrooms...	75			75
Larger houses	50			50
	928	2	32	958
PARISH OF INCE:				
Livingroom, kitchen, two bedrooms	40			40
Livingroom, kitchen, three bedrooms	4			4
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, two bedrooms...	13			13
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, three bedrooms	6			6
Parlour, livingroom, scullery, four bedrooms.	9		7	16
Larger houses	8			8
	80		7	87

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES FOR THE WHOLE AREA AT THE
END OF 1938

Parishes.	Houses.	Houses and Shops.	Total.
Ellesmere Port	4778	152	4930
Great Stanney	207	4	211
Childer Thornton	303	7	310
Hooton	4	0	4
Great Sutton	458	7	465
Little Sutton	927	31	958
Ince	86	1	87
TOTAL	6763	202	6965

Demolitions: Two houses in Black Lion Lane, Little Sutton, were demolished during 1938 in consequence of proceedings taken under the Housing Acts. Grange Farm, Olbers Villa and Bee Orchis, Whitby; also Whetstone Hey Farm, Great Sutton were demolished on account of improvements, and the figures for these have been allowed for, as shewn in the foregoing table.

The following table shews the number of new houses—and their location—erected during the year 1938.

Locality.	Builder.	Rooms	Number of Houses
Ellesmere Port:			
Crossley Avenue	Gee	Livingroom, kitchen, 3 bedrooms	10
Ferguson Avenue	Gee	Livingroom, kitchen, 3 bedrooms	2
Myrtle Street	Reynolds	Livingroom, kitchen, 3 bedrooms	10
Overpool Road	Gee	Shop, liv. room, kitchen; 3 bedrooms	4
Rivacre Road	Warrington	Par., liv. room, scull.; 3 bedrooms	1
Rivacre Road	Warrington	Par., liv. room, scull.; 4 bedrooms	1
Rossmore Road West	Gee	Livingroom; kitchen; 3 bedrooms	8
Seymour Drive	Gee	Par., liv. room, scull.; 3 bedrooms	2
Thornlea Drive	Gee	Livingroom; kitchen; 3 bedrooms	16
TOTAL			54
Whitby:			
Beech Grove	Wattling	Par., liv. room; scull., 3 bedrooms	8
Chester Road	Wattling	Par. liv. room, scull.; 3 bedrooms	4
Chester Road	Baines	Par., liv. room, scull.; 3 bedrooms	6
Deansgate Arcade	Gee	Shop; liv. room, scull., 3 bedrooms	7
Lilae Grove	Wattling	Par.; liv. room; scull., 3 bedrooms	4
Orchard Road	Baines	Par., liv. room; scull., 3 bedrooms	2
Pleck Road	Hitchen	Par., liv. room; scull., 3 bedrooms	3
Princes Road	U.D.C.	One livingroom; 1 bedroom	6
Princes Road	U.D.C.	One livingroom, 2 bedrooms	4
Princes Road	U.D.C.	One liv. room, scull., 3 bedrooms	4
Princes Road	U.D.C.	One liv. room., scullery, 4 bedrooms	10
Princes Road	U.D.C.	One liv. room, scullery, 5 bedrooms	4
Princes Road	U.D.C.	One liv. room; scullery, 6 bedrooms	6
Thamesdale	Emery	Par., liv. room; scull, 3 bedrooms	2
Vale Road	Hitchen	Liv. room, kit.; scull., 3 bedrooms	3
TOTAL			73

Locality.	Builder.	Rooms	Number of Houses
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Great Stanney :

Arthur Avenue	Sharp	Livingroom, kitchen, 3 bedrooms	2
Girton Road	Sharp	Livingroom; kitchen; 3 bedrooms	14
Girton Avenue	Sharp	Livingroom; kitchen; 3 bedrooms	30
Milton Road	Sharp	Par., liv. room.; scull., 3 bedrooms	2
Milton Road	Sharp	Livingroom; kitchen; 3 bedrooms	1
Newnham Drive	Sharp	Livingroom kitchen, 3 bedrooms	12

TOTAL 91

Little Sutton :

Chester Road	Collin	Par., liv. room, scull., 3 bedrooms	10
Chester Road	Cartwright	Par., liv. room, scull., 3 bedrooms	2
Fulwood Close	Cartwright	Living room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms	17
Heath Lane	Reynolds	Par., liv. room., scull. 3 bedrooms	3

TOTAL 32

Great Sutton :

Church Lane	Livesley	Liv. room., kit., scull., 3 bedrooms	1
Church Lane	Jones	Livingroom, kitchen, 2 bedrooms	1
Green Lane	Cash	Par., liv. room., scull., 3 bedrooms	1
Whetstone Hey	Carr	Shop. liv. room., scull, 3 bedrooms	1
Whetstone Hey	Carr	Livingroom, scullery, 3 bedrooms	48
Acre Road	Carr	Livingroom, scullery, 3 bedrooms	11
Brook Road	Carr	Livingroom, scullery, 3 bedrooms	21
Valley Drive	Carr	Livingroom, scullery, 3 bedrooms	21

TOTAL111

Childer Thornton :

Redvers Avenue	B.C.D.	Par., liv. room., scull., 3 bedrooms	3
Vernon Avenue	B.C.D.	Par., liv. room., scull., 3 bedrooms	9

TOTAY 12

Ince :

Aureool Gardens	Warrington	Diningroom, lounge, kit., scullery	
		4 bedrooms	6
Vernon Avenue	Warrington	Sit. room, Diningroom, lounge,	
		kitchen, 4 bedrooms	1

TOTAL 7

SUMMARY:—

Ellesmere Port	54	houses
Whitby	73	„
Great Stanney	91	„
Little Sutton	32	„
Great Sutton	111	„
Childer Thornton	12	„
Ince	7	„
<hr/>		
Total during, 1938	380	„
<hr/>		



HOUSING

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	221
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1597
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	56
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	82
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil.
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	56

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	49
--	----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	7
-----	--	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners	7
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	24
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners	19
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0
(c) Work in hand	5

C. Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV—OVERCROWDING.

A. (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	Nil.
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	Nil.
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	Nil.

B.	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
C.	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...								19
D.	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
E.	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report :—									
	Thirty-four new municipal houses were completed during the year, the number required for abatement of over-crowding being included in these.									

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) *Milk Supply*.—There are 36 registered cowkeepers 9 milk purveyors and 10 milkshops in the district. There are 17 milk purveyors who bring milk to the district from outside and 3 registered wholesalers resident outside the district.

The registers give the following entries :—

Cowkeepers (Wholesale Producers)	...	...	...	...	26
Cowkeepers (Retail Producers)	...	...	...	...	10
					—
Total Cowkeepers in the district	...				36
Milk Purveyors	.....				19
					—
Total Registered Milk Dealers in the district					55
Wholesalers resident outside the district	...	...	...		3
Retailers distributing milk into the district from					
				outside	15
					—
Total Number of Milk Dealers on the Registers...					73
					—

Twenty Samples of milk were obtained and sent to the bacteriologist for examination. Two were tuberculous.

All the farms and dairies in the district have been inspected and a good standard of hygienic conditions has been maintained.

Twenty-seven of the cowkeepers are on the Accredited roll.

(b) *Meat and other Foods.*—626 visits were paid to the public abattoirs and 155 to the private slaughter-houses, for the purpose of inspection whilst slaughtering was in progress.

458 visits were also made to other premises, including butchers' shops and market stalls where various food-stuffs were offered for sale.

The following table shews the number of carcasses inspected at the slaughter-houses, also the number of whole carcasses, portions of carcasses and organs rejected on account of their unfitness for human consumption, giving a total weight of 4 tons, 18 cwts, 55 lbs.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	873	91	57	4573	1661
Number Inspected	873	91	57	4573	1661
All Diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	1	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	44	5	—	18	76
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	5.04%	5.4%	—	0.4%	4.6%
Tuberculosis Only.					
Whole carcasses condemned	4	1	—	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	69	54	—	—	177
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	8.3%	61.5%	—	—	1.44%

The whole carcasses rejected consisted of 1 Bullock, 3 Heifers, 1 cow and 2 pigs, affected with Generalised Tuberculosis, 1 sheep, Oedematous, and 1 pig, Moribund.

The parts of carcasses consisted of one forequarter of beef, affected with Localised Tuberculosis; one leg of pork, fractured femur; and two forequarters of mutton, bruised.

The following table gives the diseased condition of the offal rejected.

Disease.	Beef		Mutton		Pork.	
	Lungs.		Lungs Livers		Heads Hearts	
	Livers	Heads.	Livers	Lungs		
	etc.		etc.	etc.		
Abscess	4	—	—	—	—	—
Actinomycesis	—	3	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	6	—	—
Congestion	—	—	—	64	—	—
Cysts	9	—	9	—	—	—
Distomatosis	38	—	7	5	—	—
Angiomatosis	1	—	—	—	—	—
Coenurus Cerebralis	—	—	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Localised)	134	46	—	54	146	—
Necrosis	—	—	—	3	—	—
Nephritis	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pericarditis	—	—	—	—	—	19

In addition to the above, 14 visits were paid to shops and the general market on request of the traders to inspect food coming into the district from outside, and as a result of these inspections 133 lbs. of beef and pork offal, ten boxes of pears, eleven crates of plums, three tins of pressed veil, and one rabbit, were surrendered as unfit for human consumption.

There were no formal seizures and no prosecutions taken with regard to unsound or diseased food during the year.

The shops and general market where foodstuffs are on sale have received atention by visits and inspections.

CANAL BOATS

There were 73 boats inspected during the year, and these were registered to carry 214 adults and 88 children. The actual number found to be in occupation was 142 adults and 67 children.

Two statutory notices were served for the renewal of dilapidated certificates of registration, both of which have been complied with.

No cases of infectious disease occurred on canal boats during the year, and therefore no need for detaining any boat for cleansing and disinfection was found necessary.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

Inspection of Factories and Workplaces.

Premises.	Number Of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	7	1	—
Factories without mechanical power	17	—	—
Other Premises	2	2	—
TOTAL ...	26	3	—

Defects found in Factories and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect of which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary { insufficient	1	1	—	—
Conveniences { unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—
{ not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	1	1	—	—
TOTAL ...	3	3	—	—

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

Particulars of Samples forwarded to the Public Analyst
from the District during the Year ending December, 1938.

Name of Sample	Number Analysed	No. of samples not up to standard or certified as adulterated
Almonds, Ground	2	
Boracic Ointment	2	
Butter	3	
Castor Oil	3	
Camphorated Oil	1	
Cheese Cheshire	3	
Coffee	1	
Epsom Salts	1	
Fish Paste	2	
Ginger, Ground	2	
Honey	1	
Ipecac and Lemon &c.	1	
Jam	1	
Lard	3	
Liquorice Powder	1	
Milk	37	5
Milk Condensed	1	
Meat Paste	1	
Rice, Ground	1	
Sweets	1	
Tea	1	
Whisky	3	1
	72	6

Particulars of Samples Adulterated or not up to Standard.

Name of Sample	Result of Analysis	Remarks
Milk .....No. 1.	4 per cent deficient in fat	Seller Cautioned.
Milk .....No. 2.	4.2 deficient in N.F.S.	Abnormal Sample.
Milk .....No. 3.	2.2 deficient in N.F.S.	Abnormal Sample.
Milk .....No. 4.	5.66 deficient in fat. 2.8 per cent def. in N.F.S.	Abnormal Sample See No.5
Milk .....No. 5.	27.3 per cent def. in fat.	"Appeal to Cows" re No. 4
Whisky ...No. 6.	1.2 per cent excess water.	"Test Sample." Formal genuine

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The prevalence of Infectious Disease during the period 1923-38 is shown in the following table which gives the case rate per 1,000 of the population.

Year	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia
1923	0.00	0.79	0.86	0.00	0.29	0.00
1924	0.00	4.11	0.48	0.00	0.00	0.00
1925	0.00	2.06	0.93	0.00	0.00	0.00
1926	0.00	0.85	0.06	0.00	0.36	0.00
1927	0.00	3.10	0.29	0.00	0.11	0.00
1928	4.80	9.00	0.85	0.00	0.17	0.17
1929	2.94	3.26	4.00	0.05	0.15	0.05
1930	0.00	5.75	3.28	0.05	0.48	0.22
1931	0.00	0.62	1.50	0.00	0.67	0.10
1932	0.00	0.56	1.60	0.00	0.20	0.00
1933	0.00	1.15	1.55	0.00	0.38	0.12
1934	0.00	3.39	4.45	0.08	0.32	0.24
1935	0.00	10.50	8.60	0.00	0.56	0.12
1936	0.00	3.82	5.06	0.04	0.27	0.08
1937	0.00	5.85	7.77	0.00	0.16	0.08
1938	0.00	13. 7	9. 8	0.15	.26	.076

The corresponding rates for England and Wales are as follows :—

Year	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Erysipelas
1923	0.00	2.24	1.05	0.08	0.32
1924	0.00	2.16	1.07	0.11	0.33
1925	0.14	2.36	1.23	0.07	0.39
1926	0.26	2.10	1.31	0.07	0.38
1927	0.38	2.16	1.33	0.09	0.38
1928	0.32	2.61	1.55	0.09	0.42
1929	0.28	3.05	1.59	0.07	0.45
1930	0.29	2.76	1.84	0.07	0.45

Year	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Erysipelas
1931	0.14	2.05	1.27	0.06	0.38
1932	0.05	2.12	1.08	0.06	0.36
1933	0.02	3.21	1.18	0.04	0.45
1934	0.04	3.76	1.70	0.03	0.51
1935	0.00	2.96	1.60	0.04	0.42
1936	0.00	2.53	1.39	0.06	0.40
1937	0.00	2.33	1.49	0.05	0.37
1938	0.00	2.41	1.58	0.03	0.40

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR, 1938.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Total Cases Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	358	271	—
Diphtheria .,	249	249	14
Enteric Fever	4	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	not known	1
Pneumonia	25	15	17
Erysipelas	7	4	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Ac. Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica... ..	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—

In the early part of the year outbreaks of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria assumed almost epidemic proportions in the District. As is to be expected, the greatest number of cases occurred among children of school age. It was only after determined efforts that the outbreaks were finally got under control. The methods employed were inspection of schools—with the help of the school Medical Officer—swabbing of contacts in cases of Diphtheria, and inspection of all Scarlet Fever

contacts. In addition, homes were visited and advice given on the return of cases from Hospital. I regret to say the Diphtheria was of a severe type and 14 deaths occurred among the 249 cases notified. The Scarlet Fever was not of a severe type and no deaths occurred from this Disease.

No unduly large numbers of Sore Throats, occurring without a rash, came to notice during this period.

In spite of this large incidence of Infectious Disease I am glad to note that Puerperal Pyrexia was notified on two occasions only.

There was a fall in the number of cases of Pneumonia notified, and no unusual incidence of Influenza was noted.

Owing to the epidemic of Scarlet Fever many cases were nursed at home, as Hospital accommodation was not available.

All cases of Measles and Whooping Cough were nursed at home.

The information afforded by the school intimations of Disease were found most helpful.

Owing to the number of cases of Diphtheria which had occurred year after year, it was decided to institute a scheme for Artificial Immunisation with the sanction of the Ministry of Health under Section 117 (1) of the Public Health Act, 1936. Through the co-operation of the Education Authorities, and the willing help of the teaching staffs, this was carried out at Clinics held at the Welfare Centre during the months of November and December. The injections were given by the local Practitioners. The method used was two injections of A.P.T. (Evans), .2 and .5 c.c. at fortnightly intervals, given in the upper arm. I am glad to record that few reactions were noted.

The number immunised under the Council's scheme were :—

1,593 children of school age and children of pre-school age.

In addition a good number were immunised by their own Doctors privately. The completion of the scheme was followed by a dramatic and satisfactory fall in the number of cases of Diphtheria notified, and this improvement continues to the present day.

A small outbreak of Typhoid occurred in October. There were in all four cases. The source of infection was traced to a carrier. Suitable precautions were taken and no further cases have occurred since.

In July there were several cases of Food Poisoning. These were traced to some pork pies. Bacteriological examinations showed the outbreak to be due to *B. Aertryche*. I am glad to report that all the patients made good recoveries.

TABLE OF AGE GROUPS SHOWING TOTAL (notified) CASES AND DEATHS, 1938

Diseases	Total		0-1		1-2		2-3		3-4		4-5		5-10		10-15		15-20		20-35		35-45		45-65		65&up	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
TOTAL Cases ..	645	319	326	4	3	10	8	18	25	25	19	22	22	143	163	67	55	9	18	10	8	6	4	5	1	...
TOTAL Deaths ..	32	16	16	2	2	...	...	...	1	2	2	1	1	5	5	...	1	...	2	2	1	...	3	1	...	...
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	358	179	179	1	...	7	6	11	16	15	9	12	16	82	99	36	25	7	6	5	...	3	2	...	...	...
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	249	116	133	...	2	3	2	6	8	8	9	8	5	57	62	31	30	2	11	1	3	...	1	...	...	...
Cases	14	5	9	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	1	4	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deaths	4	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Deaths	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	25	18	7	3	1	...	...	1	1	2	1	2	...	3	1	...	...	1	1	2	1	2	...	3	1	...
Deaths	17	11	6	2	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	2	1	1	...	3	1	...
Erysipelas	7	4	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	2	...	...
Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TABLE SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CASES OF
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

	WARD												
Disease.	North East	North West	South	Whitby	Stanney	Victoria	Pool and Hooton	Ince	Childer Thornton	Little Sutton	Great Sutton	Grange	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	30	16	59	16	7	52	15	1	18	52	3	89	358
Diphtheria	10	13	57	12	7	49	5	0	12	26	4	54	249
										(+56 Negative)			
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Pneumonia	3	1	8	2	0	6	0	0	1	1	1	2	25
Erysipelas	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	5	2	6	2	0	4	0	0	1	1	0	1	0
Non-Pulmonary Tuber- culosis ...	1	0	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Pulmonary M	F	Non- Pulmonary M	F	Pulmonary M	F	Non- Pulmonary M	F
0-1	Years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	"	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	"	...	1	1	2	3	1	—	—	—
15-25	"	...	5	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
25-35	"	..	2	1	—	—	2	2	—	—
35-45	"	...	7	—	—	2	6	—	—	1
45-55	"	...	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55-65	"	...	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and upwards		...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...			18	4	3	5	13	4	2	1

age not known

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

(The following are extracts from the report of the Senior Health Visitor).

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS AND HEALTH VISITING.

During the year 506 births were notified, of these 16 were stillbirths.

132 of these births occurred in Spital Maternity Home.

13 in Bromborough Maternity Home.

12 in Chester Nursing Homes.

3 in Birkenhead Maternity Hospital.

2 in Liverpool Maternity Hospital.

South Ward	86	Pool & Hooton	43
Victoria	78	Great Sutton	24
Grange	76	North East	15
Little Sutton	60	Ince	9
North West	57	Stanney	8
Whitby	43	Childer Thornon	7

8620 Visits were paid by the Health Visitors in the homes during the year as follows:—

1st visits to Infants	501
Revisits to Infants	2346
Revisits to Children 1—5 years	4515
Pre-natal visits	274
Visits to School Children	580
Incidental Calls	404
	<hr/>
	8620
	<hr/>

The visits to School Children include supervision of Foster children. Visits to cases of Whooping Cough, Chickenpox, Diphtheria contacts and those discharged from hospital. Incidental calls include visits to schools, works, Unemployment Exchange, Attendance Officer, Public Assistance officials, mid-wives etc.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

- 15 Infants died under one year of age making an Infant Mortality Rate of 30.6.
- 7 Children died between 1 and 5 years of age. The following table shows the causes of death.

<i>Under One year</i>		<i>One to five years.</i>	
Prematurity	5	Pneumonia	4
Pneumonia	3	Enteritis	1
Malformation	3	Septicaemia	1
Gastro Enteritis ...	1	Accident	1
Marasmus	1		—
Convulsions	1		7
Accident	1		—
	—		
	15		
	—		

12 of these deaths occurred during the first three months.
8 during the first month and six during the first week.

STILL BIRTHS

Obstructed and Difficult Labour	
(Abnormality of Foetus)	8
Ante-partum Haemorrhage	3
Albuminuria	2
Accident or ill-health of mother	1
No apparent cause	2
	—
	16
	—

PRE-NATAL CLINIC

1st attendances	268
Revisits	1075
Post Natal Attendances	12
	<hr/>
	1355
	<hr/>

Percentage of attendances in relation to live births 53%.
Of this remaining 47%, 59 were under their own Doctor, 149 were attended ante-natally by their own nurse and 22 were not under observation at all before the confinement.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

Two sessions are held weekly in Ellesmere Port—since October one each fortnight at Little Sutton.

The attendances for 1938 are as follows:—

1st Visits of Mothers	471	
1st Visits of Infants	329	...
1st Visits of Children 1—5 years	277	
	<hr/>	
	1077	
	<hr/>	
Total attendances of Mothers	5869	
Total attendances of Infants	4236	
Total attendances of Children 1—5 years	2637	
	<hr/>	
	12742	
	<hr/>	

Percentage of attendances in relation to live births 53%

1150 consultations were held by the Medical Officer of Health and advice given on diet, hygiene and general care for the prevention of ill-health.

Appointments were made for the routine medical inspection of children of 3 and 4½ years of age.

282 of these children were examined.

56 were found to be suffering from carious teeth and most of these have been treated.

26 were referred to the Aural Clinic.

18 to the Othopaedic Clinic.

12 for attention to eye defects.

26 were referred to the District Nurse for treatment of minor ailments.

12 were suffering from debility.

A good deal of discussion is going on at the moment with regard to the function of Welfare Centres. Their primary object was the prevention of infant mortality and morbidity by educating the mother in matters relating to health, hygiene and infant care and management. Many people feel they have now become Milk Depots, Shops and Relief Stations.

This has not been the case with our own Clinics. Indeed more and more mothers attend for the sole purpose of receiving advice, instruction and assurance.

Since it would appear at first sight that nearly all babies are artificially fed, the following figures are interesting:—

85% of the babies are breast fed on our first visit.

75% were still breast fed at 3 months of age.

50% were still breast fed at 6 months.

Of the remaining 25% on the bottle at three months, twice as many were fed on Dried Milk as on Cow's Milk and Condensed Milk put together.

DIPHTHERIA

A great deal of time has been spent during the year on this infection.

208 children under 5 years of age were immunised.

1500 school children were given 2 injections each during a daily morning session over a period of 6 weeks.

304 Diphtheria contacts were visited and swabs taken—22 were found to be positive.

235 children were visited on discharge from hospital and advice given, Those still suffering from discharging ears, nose, debility and paralysis were referred back to their own Doctors.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC

3 Sessions are held in two months in conjunction with 2 Sessions weekly on Monday and Thursday afternoons for massage and remedial exercises.

A Separate report is given by Dr. Hartley Martin.

AURAL CLINIC

This Clinic is held monthly on Friday morning.

74 Children attended for the first time.

88 Revisits were paid, making a total of 162 attendances.

Many of these children have to attend daily for treatment. Between 30 and 60 minutes is spent each morning on this work.

The results are usually so good that it is time really well spent.

DENTAL CLINIC

20 treatments were carried out by the School Dentist by arrangement with the Cheshire County Council.

SPEECH DEFECTS

The children sent to the Liverpool Speech Clinic are improving considerably.

CONVALESCENT HOME

3 Children were sent during the year—during such short lulls from infection that occurred.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION

5 foster mothers are on the register.

All the children are being well looked after and the standard of the homes is good.

One or two difficult cases have arisen during this year but eventually solutions have been found to the various problems.

One child was found to be passing from hand to hand. It is now well cared for in the home of a relative of the mother.

Much time is spent on interviews and correspondence as the Centre is now looked upon as a refuge to which to turn when any kind of difficulty arises in the home.

Clerical work increases year by year as the Ministry put fresh duties upon the Health visiting staff and require a detailed report of every act and visit paid.

The time will come when a Clerk will be necessary, in any case a typewriter would be very acceptable.

In conclusion, the Health Visitors would like to place on record their appreciation of the devoted work given by the members of the Voluntary Committee.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC

Dr. Hartley Martin reports as follows—

I have the honour to report on the work done at the Ellesmere Port Orthopaedic Clinic during the 12 months ended December 1938.

17 sessions have been held at which 77 new cases have been seen and 353 re-examinations made—an average of 26 cases per session.

These figures are given below in greater detail:—

		In relation to school age		
		Under	Of	Over
NEW CASES				
Non-Tuberculous	...	51	24	—
Tuberculous	.....	2	—	—
RE-EXAMINATIONS				
Non-Tuberculous	....	162	169	1
Tuberculous	.....	3	7	11

Table 1 shows all cases on the clinic register arranged into disease categories and age groups. The numbers of cases discharged are also shewn, the reason for discharge being given.

Of the 218 cases on the register during the year, 6 or 2.7% have been admitted to hospital for treatment. These cases comprise:—

Congenital Deformities	4 cases	Stay-in hospital	356 days
Acquired Deformities	1 case	Stay in hospital	14 days
Infantile Paralysis	1 case	Stay in hospital	34 days

The total number of hospital days was 404. 94.8% being devoted to children of school age).

The work done by the Massage and Remedial Exercises Department (twice weekly sessions) continues to give great help in preventive and curative treatment.

941 treatments have been given to the 30 cases on the Massage register; 7 new cases have been referred for treatment and 8 discharged.

Table 11 shows these cases analysed into disease groups and age categories. By means of the attendance, the proportion of the Masseuse's time devoted to each age group can be deduced.

It will be seen that of the new cases 69% were referred by the Child Welfare Service, whose co-operation in the ascertainment of cases is of much valued assistance, and that the number of cases of school age referred during the year has decreased on the figures of previous years.

ELLESMERE PORT ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC

RETURNS FOR THE YEAR, 1938

Visits by Surgeon	17
Attendances by Orthopaedic Sister	61
New Cases Examined	77
Re-Examinations	353

ANALYSIS OF CASES

	Under School Age		of Schol Age		Over School Age	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
New Cases—Non-Tuberculous ...	24	27	12	12	—	—
Tuberculous	2	—	—	—	—	—
Re-Examinations —						
Non-Tuberculous	86	76	82	87	—	1
Tuberculous	3	—	2	5	4	7

MASSAGE AND REMEDIAL EXERCISES DEPARTMENT

	Boys	Girls	Total
Number of Attendances of Cases	446	495	941
Number of Patients Treated	16	14	30
Number New Cases Referred for Treatment ...	5	2	7
Number Cases in which the Treatment has been Terminated	5	3	8

ANALYSIS OF NON-TUBERCULOUS CASES INCLUDED IN ABOVE RETURN

	Under School Age.		Of School Age.		Over School Age.	
	Boys	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Attending School
Not Attending School
Attending Special School

TABLE 1.

Disease Categories	Remaining 1937 In relation to School Age			New Cases 1938 In Relation to School Age.			Remaining 1938 In Relation to School Age.			Discharged, 1938.					
	Under	Of	Over	Under	Of	Over	Under	Of	Over	Cured.	Relieved	Over age—relieved	Left District	Refused treatment	Unsuitable
Infantile Paralysis	1	6	—	2	—	—	2	5	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Spastic Paralysis	3	5	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Rickets	6	2	—	2	—	—	2	1	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
T.B. (Osteitis&Arthritis	2	7	2	2	—	—	3	7	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
Non-Tuberculous do	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Deformities—Congenital	12	15	—	7	5	—	13	18	—	5	1	—	1	1	—
do Acquired ...	38	25	—	27	7	—	32	19	—	28	2	—	5	6	—
Diagnosis	11	5	—	18	11	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	7	31
TOTALS ...	73	66	2	53	24	—	59	56	—	43	3	3	7	15	32

MESSAGE RETURN

TABLE 2

Disease Categories	ATTENDANCES										CASES			
	OF SCHOOL AGE						UNDER SCHOOL AGE				OVER SCHOOL AGE		Number of Cases	% of Cases
	Boys			Girls			Boys		Girls					
	Attending School	Not Attending School	Attending Special School	Attending School	Not Attending School	Attending Special School								
Infantile Paralysis ...	68	—	—	98	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	16.65	
Spastic Paralysis ...	146	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	16.65	
Rickets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
T.B.(Osteitis&Arthritis)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Non-T.B. do	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Congenital Deformities	97	—	—	179	—	—	36	—	—	—	—	10	33.3	
Acquired Deformities ...	55	—	—	129	—	—	44	—	—	—	—	10	33.3	
TOTALS ...	366	—	—	456	—	—	80	39	—	—	—	30	—	
TOTALS ...	822						119				12.65%			
PERCENTAGE ...	87.35%													

